

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 06157 122209Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 916
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 6157

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR D, P, ARA AND L ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, CI
SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION: POSSIBLE TRAVEL OF
MANUEL CONTRERAS TO PERU

REF: STATE 175368

1. GRACEY AND I HAD ALREADY AGREED THAT HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO AVOID CONTACT WITH CONTRERAS, HIS BROTHER (THE NAVAL ATTACHE HERE) AND THE OTHER CHILEAN MILITARY OFFICERS ON THE SCENE. (GRACEY DID INDEED KNOW CONTRERAS IN CHILE, AS HE KNEW A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER CHILEAN ARMY OFFICERS. THE CHILEANS HERE ARE UNDERSTANDABLY INTERESTED IN HIM. HE AND OUR OTHER OFFICERS IN THE DAO ARE AWARE THAT ANY APPEARANCE OF CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE CHILEANS COULD COMPROMISE THEM WITH THEIR PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS. I HAVE ADVISED THEM TO STAY AWAY FROM THE CHILEANS AS MUCH AS THEY CAN AND AM CONFIDENT THEY WILL DO SO.)

2. I HAVE NOW INSTRUCTED GRACEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
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REFTEL TO MAKE NO CONTACT WITH CONTRERAS, TO REJECT AND REPORT TO ME ANY ATTEMPT FROM THE CHILEAN SIDE TO ESTABLISH SUCH A CONTACT, AND TO BREAK OFF AND REPORT AT ONCE ANY INADVERTENT CONTACT. I AM GIVING THE SAME INSTRUCTIONS TO THE OTHER OFFICERS IN THE DAO. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT A RETIRED CHILEAN COLONEL VISITING HERE, ONE OSCAR CADDOU, TOLD GRACEY LAST WEEK THAT CONTRERAS' WIFE WOULD

BE COMING TO LIMA SHORTLY, PRESUMABLY TO STAY WITH THE BROTHER. GRACEY WILL FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN HER CASE ALSO.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 4 REFTTEL, IT IS MY JUDGMENT THAT THE GOP WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT AGREE TO EXTRADITE CONTRERAS TO THE U.S. THE CHILEAN RELATIONSHIP IS SIMPLY TOO DELICATE TO RISK A MOVE THE PERUVIANS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CALCULATE AS BEING TAKEN IN SANTIAGO AS A DIRECT AFFRONT TO PINOCHET. IF CONTRERAS WERE HERE AT THE TIME OF AN INDICTMENT, THE GOP WOULD SURELY TRY TO HUSTLE HIM OUT AND BACK TO CHILE ASAP.
SHLAUDEMAM

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